

Citizens And Clubs Invited To Get Information On Water Situation

"A man's judgment is no better than his information."
 With this friendly assurance Ben Haggott, president of the West Basin Water Association, today invited clubs, Chambers of Commerce, veteran organizations, the P.T.A.'s and individuals of the West Basin to seek information on the water shortage afflicting this area through the considerable data that has been compiled or collated by that organization.
 Mail, telephone or inquiries in person will be answered promptly. The offices of the Association are at 141 Pacific ave., Redondo Beach, and the telephone number is Redondo 4-1422. Carl Fossette is the Association's executive secretary.



"The West Basin Water Association is a non-profit, educational organization whose membership roster is open to all who are interested in the critical and complex water problem with which we of the West Basin are confronted today," said Haggott. "It already has been of inestimable value in furnishing facts on this problem to such organizations as the committee appointed by the Southwest Water Fact Finding Committee, service clubs, Chambers of Commerce and the press.
 "As its aim is exclusively educational, it wishes to widen the scope of the association's usefulness and make this information available to everyone. An extensive public relations program is the best guarantee of intelligent action.
 "Our information is based on impartial and unprejudiced study by some of the foremost hydraulic engineers in this part of the United States, such as Harold Conkling, for 35 years a ranking water authority in Southern California, and J. P. Poland, chief engineer of the United States Geological Survey. "It is our belief that if the facts are more generally known a remedial program will be set in motion that will permanently solve the problem of water for the entire West Basin. Our gravest danger now is unnecessary delay."
 Among the educational materials on hand at the Association's office are:
 Ways and Means Committee report to Ground Water Conservation Group;
 Profile maps showing lowering water levels in the West Basin from 1903 to 1946;
 Harold Conkling's report to the West Basin Water Association on an Imported Water Supply.
 "All of it is written so that the average layman can easily understand it," concluded Haggott.
 Since 1938 Haggott has been president of the Palos Verdes Water Company, and is himself one of the best informed authorities on West Basin water.
 Richard G. Thompson, member Southwest Water Fact Finding Committee, representing Hermosa Beach, in further explaining the water problem, said in a recent statement:
 Today the 300,000 citizens who live in the 10 cities and unincorporated areas of the West Basin, with their \$130,000,000 worth of tax-appraised property, stand at a crossroads.
 We have every factor that will contribute to the abundant life, residentially, agriculturally and industrially, except one.
 That is water.
 For the past two decades hydraulic engineers have sounded

OFFERS 'LOW-DOWN' . . . Ben Haggott, president of the Palos Verdes Water Co. and of the West Basin Water Association, well known in Torrance, who states that data on water and its future in this area is available to clubs and organizations.

a solemn warning about our diminishing water supply. They tell us we are drawing out of our underground reservoirs twice as much water as Nature is putting back.
 We are, in effect, eating our cake and trying to have it, too.

"All of this is a challenge to leadership in the West Basin. Los Angeles and our adjacent communities usually have thrived on challenge.
 When the town needed railroads it went out and got them. An aqueduct was built to harness the Owens River. World-trade was magnetized by a man-built harbor.
 The history of the growth and well-being of our communities is a tribute to the character of the people who developed them. Without this pioneer daring and genius Southern California today might be world-famous for little other than climate.
 It will be interesting to note how the leadership of the West Basin meets our water challenge. Salt water is already polluting our wells. We are either going to settle the problem now by fighting for an adequate supplemental water supply that will relieve our worries or we are just going to sit and let the worst happen.
 If we sit it out now we shall do so against the considered warning of every qualified hydraulic engineer and technician who has made a study of our West Basin water resources and future probabilities.
 This is not a problem that any one community can solve; it is the problem of the entire West Basin. Along that line it is interesting to read what W. C. Mendenhall in Water Supply Paper No. 139 of the United States Geological Survey wrote some time ago. He said:
 "In general each well in the coastal plain (West Basin), whether flowing or pumped, affects every other well in the same region. All drain from a common source."
 "This fact of interdependence may mean that users of underground waters in the coastal plain region are rivals. It should mean that they have a common interest in preventing waste and conserving their supplies."
 That was written when we were still supposed to have "plenty of water," but the philosophy is plain.

Abolition Of City, Justice Courts Asked

More than 500 township, police and city courts of California with jurisdictions below that of the Superior Court are failing to give the people the type of service demanded in a modern, growing state, and possible now under a unified system of County Courts.

This is the gist of the annual report of the Committee on County Courts filed today with the State Bar of California. Before the committee's County Court Plan is presented to the Legislature, it will be debated at the convention of the State Bar of California in Coronado Sept. 24-28. At that time proponents and opponents will analyze the constitutional amendment proposed by the Committee with the view to making it as sound and practical as possible.

According to the report, instead of the "antiquated patchwork" of overlapping and conflicting jurisdictions, untrained and underpaid personnel, and inefficient jumble which now characterizes the present "system," the Committee proposes that these courts, which serve 90 percent of the people, shall be as well administered as the higher courts. The Committee proposed the abolition of the six classes of overlapping inferior courts, including Justice Courts, Municipal Courts and

City Courts, in favor of a unified system of County Courts for each county.
 This would mean abolition of the Torrance City Court and of the Justice Courts in Gardena and Inglewood which have jurisdiction over the Torrance-Lomita-Gardena area.
 One county judge for each 40,000 population would be provided as a substitute for the smaller courts, under the plan.

Fire Department At Hospital Is In Operation

A fire department, with two engines and complete equipment, has been established at the harbor branch of the Los Angeles County General Hospital on W. Carson st., hospital officials said today. The station will protect the 61 frame buildings on the 87-acre hospital tract.

Herbert Thompson and Hjalmar Odden, captains, said the station will serve only the hospital area.

At present the only patients admitted to the branch facility which was taken over from the Army two months ago are transfers from Los Angeles County General Hospital. As soon as an adequate staff of nurses and other aids can be employed the 480 beds of the hospital will be used to relieve crowded conditions at the General Hospital and care for emergency cases in the Harbor area.

Mary Ann Jones, Mother Of Local Men, Dies In L.B.

Mrs. Mary Ann Jones, mother of Charles V. Jones and Keith Jones, of Torrance, died in her Long Beach home, 973 E. 2nd st., Monday morning. She was 87 years of age and had been ill for some time.

She is survived also by the widower, Robert W. Jones; daughters, Rose Belma McGahan, Mary Ann Haverstein; sons, Edward D. and Clyde F. Jones; a sister, Mrs. Ethel Carlisle; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Services were conducted at 11 a. m. yesterday in Mottells, Long Beach.

Charles V. Jones is co-owner of the Torrance Hardware Co. and Torrance Lumber Co.

DAIRY INDUSTRY
 Capital invested in the dairy industry, according to the California Dairy Industry Advisory Board, exceeds that invested in any other industry in the nation. Milk, butter, cheese, ice cream and other dairy products in the nation annually create an output valued at \$6,000,000,000. One out of every 15 families in the nation is dependent on milk for a livelihood.

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W. J. HARRISON, M.D.
 Physician and Surgeon

Announces

the Re-Opening of offices on Tuesday, August 20, 1946 for the General Practice of Medicine and Surgery after serving 3 1/2 years in the United States Army Medical Corps.

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